

Why Charter Schools USA?

Synopsis of Recommended Intervention

- Manual High School possesses a number of programs that family and community members identify as major strengths of the school, such as College Summit and the choirs.
- Against the backdrop of these successful programs, student-level data in all key performance categories, with the exception of the percentage of students taking AP exams, is well below the state average.
- Moreover, while the percentage of students demonstrating proficiency on the Math portion of ISTEP+ has improved slightly while the school has been on academic probation, the percentage of students demonstrating proficiency on the English/Language Arts portion of ISTEP+ has dropped dramatically during this same time period (-22.1%).
- An analysis of school-level quality indicators illustrates that the school is improving in its relationship building between adults and students, particularly through elective or specialized classes and programs.
- However, almost all other school-level quality indicators were deemed poor or unacceptable during the last two years of quality reviews. Coupled with the student-level data, it is clear that despite certain high-performing programs and teachers, there are far-reaching issues impeding the school's improvement.
- Given these extensive challenges, it is recommended that Charter Schools USA be assigned as a Turnaround School Operator for Emmerich Manual High School.
- Charter Schools USA (CSUSA) is the most appropriate Turnaround School Operator for Emmerich Manual High School for a number of reasons.
 - Utilizing their own data management system, CSUSA has the capacity and experience to ensure all teachers are using meaningful student data to guide their instructional practices.
 - This data management system will also ensure families are frequently made aware of their child's academic progress. This vital communication will in turn improve family engagement in the school.
 - CSUSA has a strong track record of ensuring low-performing students are making and exceeding adequate yearly progress (AYP). All of its schools made AYP with the lowest 25% of their students in both reading and math.
 - In recognition of the fact that many students arrive at Manual below grade level, our recommendation that CSUSA also serve as the TSO for Emma Donnan Middle School will address this barrier in a systemic manner.